

**CITY OF FONTANA
FONTANA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

TO: All attendees of the Central Area Community Meeting
FROM: Lieutenant Chris Tronaas, Central Area Commander
DATE: February 23, 2009

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 17, 2009

Lieutenant Chris Tronaas

- Introductions
- Advised he is the new Area 3 Area Commander. He started with LAPD for about 2 years and came over to Fontana and has been here for about 25 years. He has worked in Patrol, as a K-9 officer, Air Unit, Narcotics Unit, and for the last 6 years has been in charge of the OES Program (Office of Emergency Services). He has taught the CERT Classes which helped prepare the citizens how to prepare for the big earthquake. Advised the Community Meetings are held quarterly.
- Advised the Area Commander Program is designed to have a Lieutenant assigned to each of the 4 areas of the City. If you have a problem in your neighborhood and it's an on going thing and you don't know who to turn to for help you can call your Area Commander.
- Advised he is the Area Commander for Area 3 which is everything from Foothill to the Interstate 10 freeway. If you have a problem or a concern you can email him at ctronaas@fontana.org, or call him at 356-7113 advised he works Monday through Thursday from noon to 10pm.
- Advised the meetings are positive and assist with coming up with solutions to problems. We are not here to bash the police department, public works or any other department within the city. If you have a complaint on a specific employee call the supervisor right away so we can resolve that issue immediately.
- Resources:
 - www.fontana.org -has links to departments within the City.
 - Community Connection.
 - Who ya gonna call.
 - www.fontanapd.org –has links to report abandoned shopping carts, abandoned vehicles, street lights that are not working, information about the CAP Program and minutes from the meetings.
- Updates:
 - Cruise Night is the 1st Friday of every month. The next one is March 6th. It is located on Spring Street just off of Sierra Ave.
 - Center Stage Theater is now open.
 - Citizen's academy is coming up, it's a free nine week class which teaches you the different aspects of the police department. Once

you complete the class you can go on a ride along with one of our officers.

- Vets Park Voluntary Clean Up day is March 14th from 8am to 12.
- Problems for Area 3:
 - Vacant foreclosed homes-please keep an eye out for any suspicious activity going on around vacant foreclosed homes.
 - Burglaries to vehicles and homes- The best thing for you to do is to harden your target which means if you have alarms make sure you turn the alarm on, make sure the doors are locked; for your vehicle do not leave anything in plain view in your vehicle. Call us when you see anything suspicious.
- New Programs-Lt. Hostetter:
 - CopLogic: The system is designed to allow citizens to file certain reports via the internet. The system is accessible from any computer with internet access through the police department's website and is also available in Spanish. There is also a computer set up in the Police department's lobby for citizens to use. The basic process of filing a report online involves the citizen entering basic information regarding the incident, including any property information. The majority of the information is completed using drop down menus. Once the citizen has completed the report they will be provided with a temporary case number and can print out a copy of that temporary report. Upon the report being approved, the citizen is emailed a copy of their report along with a permanent case number. The crimes which can be reported online are:
 - Child Custody violations
 - Graffiti
 - Harassing Phone Calls
 - Hit and Run (Which has happened in the past with no suspect information.)
 - Identity Theft
 - Lost Property
 - Theft (under \$5000)
 - Vandalism
 - Vandalism to a vehicle
 - Vehicle Burglary
 - Vehicle Tampering

Linda Burton- Cap Resource Program:

- Advised she works for the city of Fontana in the Water of Life Church.
- The CAP Resource Program offers low to no cost services through referrals.
- The CAP Resource program offers classes in such fields as looking for a job, life skills classes, writing a resume, etc, usually free of charge.
- Most of your questions can be answered by checking out the CAP Resource program website.

- Advised the CAP Resource Fair is coming up on Thursday April 30th from 10 am to 2 pm at the Jesse Turner Center-Representatives from over 100 local Community Assistance programs will be present to provide free resources and services and to make referrals.

Micheal Palmer-Central Valley Prevention Program:

- Advised they are county wide funded and lead initiative prevention for substance abuse and underage drinking. They are currently looking for anyone who is interested in the program to help them look at ways they can take care of the problem with underage drinking and substance abuse of under aged children.

Mike Martinez-ADT Alarm systems:

- Advised he is a resident of Fontana and he works for ADT. Advised ADT gave him permission to give away security systems for free, however you will have to pay for the monitoring of the system but the system will be free a value of more than \$200. If you would like a gift certificate please see him after the meeting.

Gang Officer Buddy Porch-“Graffiti In Our City” PowerPoint Presentation:

- Advised there are 11 Gang Officers, 6 Bicycle Officers, and 2 Grand Theft Auto Investigators in the MET Unit (Multiple Enforcement Team Unit). All of the Officers work on specialized assignments, and on problems that may arise in the City.
- The Gang Officers wear a green polo shirt with the word “SMASH” (San Bernardino County Movement Against Street Hoodlums) on it. Fontana PD has the largest gang unit within San Bernardino County. The best way to get information is to stop people and talk to them. He handles all graffiti reports. He also responses to “graffiti in progress” calls. To report graffiti call 350-GONE or report it on the police department’s website www.fontanapd.org. The City’s graffiti team works 6 days a week, and removes graffiti within 24-48 hours. If someone is in the progress of putting up graffiti, call the Police Dispatch Center at 350-7700. Lt. Aulis advised that in the early 90’s, San Bernardino County started the “SMASH” program. When things tampered off most Cities disbanded their gang unit. Our officers kept the uniform. Gang members know that they wear this uniform, and know how they are going to deal with them. Other agencies have started putting their gang unit back together.
 - There are two types of graffiti-“Gang and Tagging”:
 - Gang Graffiti-“SUR” means Southern California 13. This gang has alliances with the Mexican Mafia gang members, and Mexican prison gang members.
 - “IE” means the territory they claim. They are showing every other gang or whoever lives in the area that they are there and it is their territory. They can have large gang with smaller cliques. They have monikers that don’t change.

- “Varrio” means hood. You will always see “V” in gang graffiti.
- If a gang member is caught tagging the officer asks for “gang enhancement” (extended sentencing) in his report that is sent to the District Attorney’s Office.
- When the Officers do a search warrant at gang members’ homes they found their rooms usually tagged with gang graffiti (usually have gang roll call-monikers of members in their gang).
- Tagging-Taggers usually tag by themselves or with one of two more people. Tagging is a bubbly design, large, and colorful. A tagging crew is not a gang.
- Go to website www.fontanapd.org to report graffiti and tagging.
- About 20 Cities have this computer program.
- The City’s graffiti team has a camera with a GPS tracking system in it. They download the graffiti pictures into a program that goes to a company in Long Beach called the “Graffiti Tracker”. The company link information together in a database for the 20 cities to share.
- The system has a “Gang Intelligence Report” and “Tagging Intelligence Report” tracking program that the officers use to find offenders.
- The program was started on August 28, 2008. Officer have made 20 arrests since starting the program. The program has a Google map that shows where graffiti/vandalism occurred. It has the date and time when the picture was taken. The Officers take this information to court and shows it to the judge at the suspect’s hearing...
- From October 1 to October 31, the City’s graffiti team responded to 4.567 graffiti clean-up requests. The City has now started charging a restitution fee to the vandals according to the amount of “their” graffiti that was cleaned up by the City’s graffiti team.
- The “Graffiti Tracker” has a map that shows where tagging is occurring within the City. Taggers usually tag in their area, and on their way to and from school.

Questions and Concerns of Residents

THE ITEMS IN BOLD PRINT REFLECT ACTIONS TAKEN

- Asked if the CAP Program will offer Shelter for her Foster daughter who is now living on the streets and is homeless. ***Linda Burton advised what she will do is help her find a shelter to go to. She will give her resources to get her into a shelter.***
- Asked if the CAP program will offer assistance to a senior citizen who is single and needs home repairs. ***Linda Burton advised the CAP Program can assist with getting assistance to senior citizens such as that. The Community Action Program offers a weatherization program which will help seniors with home repairs also the Department of Aging offers services.***
- Asked if there are any gangs that are just in the central part of the city. ***Officer Porch advised no there is not one specific gang just in the central area of Fontana. Our gangs are not like you hear about the***

ones in LA where they claim a street and stay there Fontana's Gangs are throughout the whole city.

- Asked how many times it takes for a tagger to be put in jail. **Officer Porch advised it's up to the judge however we have come up with a figure of \$486.31 it takes for our city to remove the graffiti from a location that includes all the man hours and equipment used, with that figure it makes one little area of graffiti a felony.**
- Asked what happens if the graffiti is on your property, do you still call the graffiti hotline. **Officer Porch advised if you graffiti being put up then call the police department right away however if you wake up in the morning and your fence is tagged on you can call the graffiti hotline or go on Fontanapd.org to report it at no charge to the home owner you might just have to sign a waiver.**
- Asked what is the real world meaning of having the gang tag in your area what are they trying to say. **Officer Porch advised usually it's one kid on the street who is in the gang and he is letting others know this gang is on the block, however we do not have the same problems such as LA as if a gang claims a street only that gang is allowed on that street.**
- Asked what the difference is between graffiti on the walk vs. the sidewalk vs. a sign vs. an empty house? **Officer Porch advised usually kids are just bored and will paint on anything they can. If the graffiti is on the sidewalk it is usually a kid who lives in the area.**
- Advised the clean up crew does a fantastic job. **Officer Porch advised usually 80% of all graffiti is cleaned up within 24 hours and the rest is cleaned up within 72 hrs.**
- Asked if they will go on the big signs and clean graffiti. **Officer Porch advised they won't be able to go on the big signs and clean however they will go anywhere they can.**
- Asked about the stickers on the signs. **Officer Porch advised that is called slap sticking and in January that was passed to be considered as a form of graffiti.**
- Asked if the police department is using the tracking system with school police as well. **Officer Porch advised school police is looking into getting the same system however we do work very close with school police.**
- Asked if you do a report using Cop Logic does the police department act on it. **Deputy Chief Hostetter advised usually reports accepted through that system had no suspect information and no information which will give us any leads however a sergeant does review each report. If you are a victim of any of those crimes and you have suspect information please call the police department to have an officer take the report.**
- Asked if fingerprinting is not being done much anymore. **Lt. Tronaas advised it is being done. We have three CSI girls who can take the**

finger prints, so if you see fingerprints on a smooth surface please all the police department to make the report.

- Asked if they have any questions can they email Lt. Tronaas. ***Lt. Tronaas advised yes you can in fact it is the best way to contact him. His email is ctronaas@fontana.org.***
- Advised when the economy is poor usually crime goes up, asked how the city of Fontana is doing on serious crimes in the past year. ***Lt. Tronaas advised part 1 crimes are the most serious/violent crimes, they include robbery, homicide rape, overall we are about the same we haven't seen any huge spike we normally have anywhere from 6 to 12 homicides a year and we were in that same area. Advised when he got to Fontana 25 years ago it was still 6 to 12 homicides a year and the population was no where where it is today, so even with the increase in population being 5 to 6 times what it was back then we are still in the same area.***
- Advised when you call the police department and want to remain anonymous the officer came to his house. ***Lt. Tronaas advised they are not suppose to do that when you want to remain anonymous.***
- Advised they are starting to have a problem in their neighborhood with two families, one of the family's are renters with about 6 to 7 teenagers. There was a fight in the street and it's getting really bad believes it's a black and white issue. ***Officer Porch advised he knows about the whole situation and advised once they got there everyone said nothing happened so there was nothing much that could be done. Advised there is an officer who made that situation a project and has been doing extra patrol in the area.***
- Asked if the residents have any property rights if they start the fight on your property. ***Officer Porch advised yes you do you have trespassing rights.***
- Asked what about kids who are skateboarding on your driveway. ***Officer Porch advised yes you would have the same right. Advised what the neighbors should do is ban together and work together to help solve the problem in the neighborhood. Neighborhood Watch might be the best thing for the neighborhood.***
- Asked what about racing on Merrill and Laurel, advised there is always a lot of speeding. ***Lt. Tronaas advised him to email him the information and he will pass it onto the traffic unit and they will send motors out to try to catch the speeders.***
- Advised she has a problem with cars parking on lawns, code compliance has informed her they are reactive not proactive however at 9898 Palmetto the guy parks on the lawn all the time, asked if the police department has people who can inform the people who do not know it's not right to park on the lawn the rule. She advised it reminds her of Tijuana and it's very frustrating because the reason he does this is because he has a sign on the truck advertising a business. Also at 9599 Tangelo

- there is a silver car every night on the lawn. ***Lt. Tronaas advised he will send traffic guys out there to inform them.***
- Advised she called Code Compliance to come out on a house across the street from her and advised she called Lt. Tronaas and the next day they were out there boarding up the house.
 - Advised there is a constant problem with a little lake that forms on the south/west corner of Bulik Park. ***Chuck Hays advised he will send someone out to check it out.***

THE NEXT MEETING DATE IS MAY 19, 2009 AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 17244 RANDALL (CORNER OF RANDALL/PALMETTO) AT 6:30 PM. PLEASE SUBMIT ANY ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA BEFORE MAY 18, 2009 TO:

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THE CITY OF FONTANA COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD, KFON CHANNEL 3, GOVERNMENT ACCESS CHANNEL ANNOUNCES THE CENTRAL AREA COMMUNITY MEETINGS' DATE, TIME, AND PLACE DAILY.